

experienced judiciary that deals with the tougher cases. Now, with that, I urge you to adopt the amendment from a philosophical viewpoint. I don't believe that it's really...money just really doesn't figure into this particular amendment because with a situation where we are doing away with county court judges where they are not needed, that the issue just really doesn't exist. But more importantly, if a county...if a referee...it is more of a temporary type of basis, instead of appointing him for a permanent existence, like a county court judge, once they are appointed they are appointed for life until they retire. Whereas a referee, let's say we have a tremendous workload, once this begins, now, it has begun, it has been going on for six days now and it is really too early to tell what the caseload and what the workload is going to be so we come in and they say, boy, we have a lot of cases here at the beginning because of this tremendous backlog, so they go out and they hire three referees to handle the caseload of all these backlog cases.

PRESIDENT: You have one minute.

SENATOR ABBOUD: Now, a year from now, if we don't have that caseload because of the backlog that has existed prior to this, they can come in later and say, well, we are going to get rid of this referee and this referee in this particular area, so maybe in Douglas County we will be down to two referees, or maybe in Lancaster County they will be down to one referee, or maybe in Hall County they will reduce theirs down to one referee as well. So it allows for the flexibility and in my belief it actually saves money because you don't hire a permanent judge to handle a particular situation. It is a temporary person that handles the particular area. With that, I urge you to adopt the amendment. I see it as a money-saving measure. Thank you.

PRESIDENT: The motion is the adoption of the Abboud amendment to LB 600. All those in favor vote aye, opposed vote nay. Please record your vote on the motion offered by Senator Abboud to LB 600. The motion is by Senator Abboud to amend LB 600 and the form in which it has been discussed. Please record your vote. Have you all voted? Record the vote, Mr. Clerk.

CLERK: 3 ayes, 14 nays on adoption of the amendment, Mr. President.

PRESIDENT: The amendment fails. What else on the bill?